

## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to an engine hood for motor vehicles, which possesses a deformable head  
5 impact zone for the protection of pedestrians in the event of a collision with the motor vehicle. The engine hood is composed of two or more load-bearing shells and has a flexural strength profile which is low adjacent the edges and increases continuously toward  
10 the middle of the hood. At the same time, the engine hood has a uniform mass distribution over the entire surface. Consequently, irrespective of the position on the engine hood, the same characteristic for the head impact is achieved everywhere. The advantageous  
15 embodiment of the engine hood provides a reinforcing panel with regularly arranged beads, at most three beads forming a junction point so as to reduce local rigidities.